



PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY  
SINCE 1957

BUSINESS CENTER

144 Ferguson Road

MAIL

P.O. Box 6570

Auburn, CA 95604

PHONE

530.823.4860

530.823.4960 - fax

[WWW.PCWA.NET](http://WWW.PCWA.NET)

## NEWS RELEASE

Contact:

Einar Maisch, PCWA General Manager

(530) 823-4860

or: Adam Carter

(775) 722-2878

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### PCWA BOARD APPROVES AMENDED DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

**AUBURN, Calif. (Apr. 3, 2015)** – The Placer County Water Agency Board of Directors approved a revised Water Shortage Contingency Plan at its board meeting on April 2. The plan addresses an executive order mandating substantial statewide water reductions of 25 percent issued by Governor Brown on April 1.

“The Governor’s executive order and the mandatory actions that are necessary to meet the requested levels of water use reduction serve as a reminder of the severity of the current drought conditions,” PCWA General Manager, Einar Maisch said.

Linda Yager, PCWA Deputy Director of Customer Services, presented the mandatory actions that will be required under the Governor’s latest executive order, which are now included in PCWA’s revised Water Shortage Contingency Plan. The revised Plan for potable water meets the requirements of the executive order and ensures that the Agency’s water supplies will be sufficient for the duration of the drought.

The Agency has been operating since April 2014 under a Stage 1 Water Alert condition, which is designed to achieve a reduction of up to 20%. The Governor’s executive order, issued April 1, 2015, requires 25% water conservation. At its next regular meeting on April 16 the PCWA Board of Directors will consider adoption of a Stage 2 Water Warning condition, which is designed to achieve up to a 30% reduction in water use.

Under Stage 2 the following additional actions will be prohibited:

- Irrigation of ornamental turf on public street medians with potable water.
- Outside irrigation for newly constructed homes and buildings unless watered using drip or microspray systems.

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- Installation of new turf or hydro seed for existing homes unless watered using drip or microspray systems.
- Use of decorative water features.

Additionally, the Plan limits installation of new landscaping for existing homes to low water use trees, shrubs and groundcover and restricts the watering of lawns to two days per week from April through November.

In other news, PCWA directors:

- Heard from PCWA Director of Customer Services, Matt Young regarding the agency's strategic advancements in customer service technology. The agency is currently piloting Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) meter reading technology, which allows PCWA to capture meter reads more frequently and efficiently. If successful, this technology may allow the Agency to transition to a more manageable monthly billing cycle without significant increase in costs and provide customers with more timely information on water use and help in identifying water leaks.
- Heard from Michael Willihnganz and Bryan Heath of PCWA's Administrative Services Department regarding the agency's continuing improvements to its Payment Card data security. Compliance with increasing standards ensures a secure environment for the processing, storing and/or transmitting of customer credit card information.
- Held a public hearing regarding the Keena/Bell Pipeline Replacement Project.

The next regular meeting of the PCWA Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, April 16, 2015, at the PCWA Business Center, 144 Ferguson Road, in Auburn. PCWA board meetings are open to the public.

Information on PCWA board meetings may be obtained through the Clerk to the Board at (530) 823-4850 or (800) 464-0030. For drought updates and water conservation information, see [www.pcwa.net](http://www.pcwa.net).

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### **About PCWA**

Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) is the primary water resource agency for Placer County, California, with a broad range of responsibilities including water resource planning and management, retail and wholesale supply of drinking water and irrigation water, and production of hydroelectric energy.